INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

(735)

CONFIDENTIAL

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Info

PP RUEHC
DE RUMJIR 1163 1961130
ZNY CCCCC
P 151040Z JUL 67
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO RUMTBK/AMEMBASSY BANKOK
RUHHHQA/CINCPAC FOR POLAD
RUMJFS/AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
STATE GRNC
BT

Gen. Duong Van Minh

EXCISE

Saigon 1163

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 1163

LIMDIS

1. [redacted] HAVE TOLD US THAT CENTRAL ELECTION COUNCIL HAS DECIDED TO RECOMMEND AGAINST GENERAL DUONG VAN MINH'S CANDIDACY ON THE GROUNDS THAT LIENG, MINH'S RUNNING-MATE, ONCE HELD FRENCH CITIZENSHIP. THIS CONFIRMS EARLIER REMARKS TO EMBOFFS BY [redacted] MEMBER OF CENTRAL ELECTION COUNCIL. BOTH APPEAR CONFIDENT THAT ASSEMBLY WILL ACCEPT COUNCIL'S RECOMMENDATION.

PAGE 2 RUMJIR 1163 C O N F I D E N T I A L

2. [redacted] TOLD EMBOFF HE HAD JUST RECEIVED CENTRAL ELECTION COUNCIL'S REPORT FOR TRANSMITTAL TO NA SPECIAL COMMITTEE. HE SAID HE IS NOT AT LIBERTY TO RELEASE IT TO US BUT SAYS IT WILL BE INCORPORATED INTO REPORT OF NA SPECIAL COMMITTEE WHICH SHOULD BE AVAILABLE AFTERNOON JULY 17. (NA NOW PLANS TO MEET IN PLENARY SESSION JULY 18 TO VOTE ON CANDIDATES' QUALIFICATIONS, RATHER THAN JULY 17 AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED.)

3. MEANWHILE VIET-NAM PRESS JULY 14 EVENING EDITION CARRIES REPORT ATTRIBUTED TO NA SPECIAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN NGUYEN THANH VINH TO EFFECT THAT CENTRAL ELECTION COUNCIL HAS RECOMMENDED THAT 7 PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES BE DISQUALIFIED. WHILE ASSEMBLY SOURCES DENY THAT VINH HAS GIVEN ANY SUCH INFORMATION TO PRESS, VIET-NAM PRESS REPORT COULD WELL BE TRUE. IT STATES CENTRAL ELECTION COUNCIL RECOMMENDING FOLLOWING SLATES BE DISQUALIFIED: 1) MINH/LIENG; 2) LUYEN/THOAN; 3) CO/SINH; 4) THANH/HUYEN; 5) NHON/HUNG (THIS SLATE WAS NOT POSTED FOR FIRST TIME AFTER NA JULY 1 SESSION, BUT LODGED COMPLAINT REQUESTING

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [redacted] DATE 10/7/81
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

DECLASSIFIED

THAT IT BE REINSTATED); 6) DZU/CHIEU; 7) HONG/HAI.

4. NA SPECIAL COMMITTEE WILL HOLD CLOSED SESSIONS JULY 16 AND 17 TO DISCUSS ELECTION COMPLAINTS AND PREPARE REPORT TO ASSEMBLY. EMBASSY WILL REPORT FURTHER ON THIS SUBJECT AS INFORMATION BECOMES AVAILABLE.

BUNKER

BT NOTE: PASSED S/S-O, WHITE HOUSE, DOD, NSA, CIA, USIA AT 8:00 AM 7/15/67

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